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MINUTES

OF THE

SECOND ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

United Baptist Association,

HELD WITH THE

CONCORD CHURCH,

ALEXANDER COUNTY, N. C.,

October 18th, 19th and 20th, 1861.

SALEM, N. C.
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1861.

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PROCEEDINGS.

CONCORD, ALEXANDER COUNTY, N. C., }
THURSDAY, October 18th, 1861. }

The introductory sermon was preached by Elder J. CROUCH, the alternate, (Elder S. P. Smith not present,) from I Corinthians. 6th chapter, latter clause of the 19th and 20th verses:

"Ye are not your own! For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."

After a short intermission, the delegates convened in the Meeting-house, and were called to order by Elder R. Gentry, (the Moderator of last year not being present,) by singing,—Elder A. C. Farthing leading in prayer.

Letters from twenty-three churches were presented and read.

On motion, the Association proceeded to the election of officers:—Elder R. GENTRY, was chosen *Moderator*, and br. P. ELLER, *Clerk*.

On motion, opened a door for the reception of churches, whereupon the following churches, through their messengers, presented their letters, and were kindly received into the fellowship of this body, to wit: Dudly Shoals, a newly constituted church, and Sardis church, were received by letter. And, on behalf of the Association, the Moderator extended the right hand of fellowship to each delegate.

On motion, invited Corresponding Messengers. The following were received: From the Yadkin Association, Elder E. Martin with a letter and minutes. From the Three Forks, Elder A. C. Farthing, bearer of a letter and minutes. From the Roan Mountain, Elders J. J. Jones, S. M. Collis, and br. S. Buchanan. All were kindly received, and the right hand of fellowship given them by the Moderator, and they seated with the Association.

Invited regular Baptist ministers to seats in the Association: Elders I. Oxford and P. Tritt accepted the invitation.

Appointed the delegates of Concord church, with the pastor of said church, a committee on devotional exercise.

Appointed Elders J. McNeil, R. L. Steele, J. B. Green, J. Reed, and br. A. H. Martin, with the Moderator and Clerk, a Committee of Arrangement, and invited corresponding messengers to sit with them.

On motion, the Association agreed to hold prayer meeting to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

The committee on devotional exercise reported for Friday: Elder Jones, 1st; Farthing, 2nd; F. A. Belcher, 3rd.

On motion, adjourned till 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Prayer by Elder Reed.

FRIDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 19th.

The Association met at 9 o'clock. According to appointment held prayer meeting for one hour. Elder R. L. Steele led in prayer, invoking God for his mercies on our distressed country. Elder F. A. Belcher followed in prayer, imploring the mercies of God in behalf of our country, success of our cause, and asking God to restore peace to our country.

At 10 o'clock the Association resumed her regular business.

1. Called the roll of delegates and marked absentees.

2. Read and adopted the minutes of yesterday.

3. Called on the Committee of Arrangements, who reported, and were discharged.

4. Read Rules of Decorum.

5. On motion, the invitation of yesterday, inviting correspondents, was extended, when J. Blevans, S. Blackburn, D. Smith and Wm. Young, from the Jefferson Association, were received.

6. The Moderator announced the following Committees:

On Finance.—Elders Wm. Pool and F. A. Belcher.

On Temperance.—Elders L. Land and S. M. Collis.

On Sabbath Schools.—Elder F. A. Belcher and br. J. R. Sherrel.

On Periodicals.—Elders J. Oxford and br. J. T. Shell.

On Missions.—Elders J. G. Bryan and Wm. Pool.

On Resolutions.—Elders J. McNeil and br. A. H. Martin.

On Colportage.—Elder E. Martin and R. L. Steele.

7. Called on the Treasurer of last year, who reported. See letter A.

8. Called on corresponding messengers appointed to the different Associations, who reported and were discharged.

9. Called on the delegates who were appointed to the Western Convention, who reported and were discharged.

10. Appointed corresponding messengers:

To the Catawba Association: Elder J. Oxford, br. J. Hamner, J. T. Shell and J. R. Sherrill.

To the Lebanon Association, Elder S. Trivett, brn. M. A. Parks and N. Allen.

To the Yadkin, Elders R. Gentry, J. B. Green, and br. A. H. Martin. Place, Flat Rock; time, Friday before the 1st Saturday in October, 1862.

To the Roan Mountain, brn. P. Eller, J. T. Shell, A. H. Martin, A. West; and Elder F. A. Belcher, Wm. Pool and J. McNeil.—Place, Zion church, Tow River, Yancey county, Friday before the 2nd Sabbath in September, 1862.

To the Jefferson Association, Elders Wm. Pool, E. Tilly, R. Gentry and J. Hamner.

11. Appointed br. A. H. Martin, Elders I. Oxford and J. B. Green, delegates to the next session of the Western Convention.—Place, Mount Vernon camp ground, Rutherford county; time, Thursday evening after the 4th Sabbath in August, 1862.

12. Called on the Committee of Finance, who reported and was discharged. See report, letter B.

13. On motion, took up the letter from Union church, asking a committee to visit said church and take up their records and settle the difficulty.

14. The Moderator appointed Elders Wm. Pool, J. B. Green, J. McNeil, F. A. Belcher and J. Crouch, to compose said committee, and to attend said church on Friday before the first Sabbath in December next, and report to the next Association.

15. Considered the letter from the Yadkin Association, when br. E. Martin reported the matter settled.

16. On motion, the 21st Article of the Constitution referring to the appointment of presbyteries for the ordination of Ministers and constitution of churches, was stricken out.

17. On motion, the Association withdrew her fellowship from the Liberty Chapel church, for the alledged reason that she was holding a drunkard in fellowship with the church.—And that the letter and money be refunded to the church.

18. The Committee on devotional exercise reported for Saturday: Elder F. A. Belcher, J. G. Bryan and J. Reed. For Sabbath: Elder R. Gentry, at 10 o'clock, A. M.; S. M. Collis at 11 A. M.,—to preach a missionary sermon. Elder E. Martin, in the evening, to preach a denominational sermon.

19. Then, on motion, Elders J. G. Bryan, J. McNeil and J. Crouch were appointed a committee to lay off the Association into Districts.

20. Appointed the next Association to be held with the King's Creek church, Caldwell County, N. C., 11 miles East of Lenoir, to commence on Thursday before the 3rd Sabbath in October, 1862.

Elder F. A. Belcher, to preach the introductory sermon.—Elder I. Oxford, alternate.

21. Appointed the Clerk to superintend the printing of the minutes, and have one thousand (1000) copies struck and distributed as usual; and that he be allowed ($6 00) six dollars for his services.

On motion, adjourned until to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock. Prayer by Elder E. Martin.

SATURDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 20th.

Met according to adjournment. Prayer by Elder Pool.

Again invited preaching brethren, when Elder J. H. West, cepted the invitation.

1. Took up the letter from the Three Fork Association, hen the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That this Association has learned with regret that ıere exists a difficulty between the Three Fork and Jefferson ssociations, which prevents the former from opening a cor- spondence with us, and that we will willingly give any assist- nce in our power to settle the matter, but do not regard our- elves as the proper adjudicators of the case.

3. Called on the Committee appointed to district the Associ- tion, who reported. See appendix at letter C.

Called on the Committee on Missions, who reported and was discharged. See appendix letter D.

4. Called on the Committee on Periodicals, who reported and was discharged. See letter E.

5. Appointed Elders J. McNeil and I. Oxford Missionaries and Colporteurs to travel in the bounds of this Association, as long as they can procure means to pay them for their services.

6. Ordered by the Association, that the Treasurer pay Elder J. McNeil, our Missionary for last year, four dollars and sev- enty cents, in his hands from Oak Grove church, for Home Missions. Elder R. Gentry paid him one dollar, and A. Allen paid him one dollar.

7. The Committee on Sabbath Schools reported and was discharged. See report at letter F.

8. The Committee on Colportage reported. See letter G.

9. Ordered by the Association that the collection to be taken on Sabbath be applied to sending the Word of God to our sol- diers, that is the soldiers of North Carolina.

10. The Committee on Temperance reported and was dis- charged. See appendix, letter H.

11. The Committee on Resolutions reported and was dis- charged. See report at letter I.

12. Thus closed the second session of this Association during which time peace and harmony prevailed.

R. GENTRY, *Moderator.*

P. ELLER, *Clerk.*

SABBATH.

The stand was occupied by those appointed. Elder R. Gen- trey preached first, from I Tim., 2nd chap. and 5th verse:— "For there is one God," &c. Elder S. M. Collis followed and preached a Missionary sermon, from Jeremiah 6th chapter and

16th verse: Stand ye in the ways," &c. Elder E. Martin preached a denominational sermon, and closed the services of the day. Text: Luke the 1st chapter, latter clause of the 33d verse: "And of his kingdom there shall be no end."

A collection was taken amounting to $13 23.

Ordained Ministers in the United Baptist Association.

NAMES.	POST OFFICES.	COUNTIES.
S. P. Smith,	Wilkesborough,	Wilkes.
William Church,	Job's Cabin,	"
S. Ferguson,	Warrior Creek,	"
P. Grimes,	Trap Hill,	"
J. H. Brown,	Elkville,	"
L. Land.	"	"
J. McNeil,	Perlear's Creek,	"
A. W. Vannoy,	"	"
J. B. Green,	New Hope,	Iredell.
E. Tilley,	King's Creek,	Caldwell.
J. H. West,	Deal's Mill's,	"
I. Oxford,	"	"
D. Austin,	Little River,	Alexander.
M. Austin,	"	"
J. Reed,	"	"
R. Gentry,	Gap Creek,	Ashe.
A. Johnson,	Jefferson,	"
R. L. Steele,	Taylorsville,	Alexander.
Wm. Pool,	"	"
J. Crouch,	"	"
P. Tritt	"	"
J. G. Bryan,	"	"
H. Holsclaw,	Little River,	Alexander,
S. Trivette,	Jefferson,	Ashe.
F. A. Belcher,	Perlear's Creek,	Wilkes.

Licentiates.

J. B. Greer,	Warrior Creek,	Wilkes.
D. Willborn,	"	"
J. Walker,	"	"
A. Milliam,	Wilkesboro',	"
A. B. West,	Lewis Fork,	"

Names of Churches.	*Clerks.*	*Post Offices.*
Lewis Fork,	A. J. Proffitt,	Lewis Fork.
Pilgrim,	J. H. Foster,	"
King's Creek,	Thomas Isbell,	King's Creek.
New Hope,	P. Eller,	Perlear's Creek.
Little River,	P. J. Barnes,	Taylorsville.
Taylor's Spring,	Wm. H. George,	New Hope.
Bethel,	R. McGwier,	Nettle Knob.

Names of Churches.	*Clerks.*	*Post Offices.*
Center,	E. C. Oxford,	Little River.
Taylorsville,	C. Jones,	"
Dover,	J. Medloch,	"
Mt. Gilead,	B. Hines,	"
Walnut Grove,	J. Reavis,	Wilkesboro'.
Antioch,	Wm. T. Pool,	Little River.
Three Forks of L. River	R. Watts,	Taylorsville.
Liberty Grove,	S. H. Harrington,	"
Macedonia,	Wm. Guyder,	"
Mt. Zion,	T. C. Land,	Elkville,
Beaver Creek,	J. F. Ferguson,	"
Pleasant Grove,	Dissolved.	
Union,	D. Down,	
Concord,	J. F. Faulkner,	Taylorsville.
Mt. Airy,		Hay Meadow.
Fishing Creek,	A. C. Allen,	Wilkesboro.
Oak Forest,	A. H. Martin,	Brier Creek.
New Bethany,	Thos. H. Ervin,	Catawba Station.
Liberty Chapel,	E. Pope,	Jefferson.
Sardis,	J. R. Sherrill,	
Dudley,	J. T. Shell,	

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.
Lewis Fork,	Elder J. Mc Neil.
Pilgrim,	" A. W. Vannoy.
King's Creek,	" E. Tilley.
New Hope,	" J. McNeil.
Little River,	" A. Gilreath.
Taylor's Spring,	" J. B. Green.
Bethel,	" A. Johnson.
Center,	" J. H. West.
Taylorsville,	" S. Ferguson.
Dover,	"
Mt. Gilead,	" J. Crouch.
Walnut Grove,	" A. Gilreath.
Antioch,	"
Three Forks Little River,	" S. Ferguson.
Liberty Grove,	" James Reed.
Macedonia,	" J. Crouch.
Mt. Zion,	"
Beaver Creek,	" J. Crouch & J. H. Brown
Union,	"
Concord,	" R. L. Steele.
Mt. Airy,	"
Fishing Creek,	" S. P. Smith & J. McNeil.
Oak Forest,	" P. Grimes.
New Bethany,	"
Dudley Shoal,	" I. Oxford.
Sardis,	"

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	COUNTIES.	P ST OFFICES.	Delegates.	DELEGATES' NAMES.	Baptized....	Re-by Let	Restored....	Dis by Let	Excluded..	Deceased.	Total.....	Contribut'n
Lewis Fork,	Wilkes,	Lewis Fork,	1	L. Triplett, and M. Walsh,		6		4			84	1 50
Pilgrim,	"	"	3	J. H. Foster, and Jesse Somerlin,	16		4	4	4		52	1 25
King's Creek,	Caldwell,	King's Creek,	4	E. Tilley,					1	1	81	2 00
New Hope,	Wilkes,	Perkear's Creek,	4	C. A. Belcher, J. McNeil, and P. Eller,	9	3		1	5		112	2 00
Little River,	Alexander,	Taylorsville,	1	Wm. Pool, H. Pearson and J. Cearly,	2			2			97	2 00
Taylor Spring,	Iredell,	New Hope.	1	J. B. Green and S. W. Hardin,							38	1 00
Bethel,	Ashe.	Nettle Knob,	2	R. Gentry,				2	2	1	28	1 50
Center,	Alexander,	Little River,	1	J. Read and C. Oxford,						1	19	1 00
Taylorsville,	"	Taylorsville,	3	E. C. Harrington and D. W. Moose,	1	1			1	2	35	1 00
Mount Gilead,	"	"	3	B. Hines and A. Lackey				1			39	85
Walnut Grove,	Wilkes,	Wilkesboro',	3	R. Brock,							46	1 10
Antioch,	Alexander,	Little River,	4	V. Teague,					2	2	121	1 00
Three Forks, L. R.,	"	Taylorsville,	2	J. G. Bryan, J. Crouch and R. Watts,				2			79	1 00
Liberty Grove,	"	"	4	J. Palmer R. L. Steele, S. H. Arrington,				4		1	51	1 00
Macedonia,	"	"	2	Wm. Pierce, J. L. Burgess, E. Crouch,		1		2	2	2	122	65
Mt. Zion,	Wilkes,	Elkville.	4	L. Land and A. B. West,	1						23	1 00
Beaver Creek,	"	"	3	J. Garman,		5					74	2 00
Union,	Caldwell,	No return,										
Concord,	Alexander,	Taylorsville,	3	E. Turner, S. Danner, J. Fortner,	2			6			54	1 00
Fishing Creek,	Wilkes,	Wilkesboro'	2	A. C. Allen,				2	1		52	1 50
Oak Forest,	"	Brier Creek,	3	A. H. Martin,							20	1 80
New Bethany,	Iredell,	Catawba Station	4	I. Stockheather, R. E. A. Lollar, J. F. Alexander,			1	5			64	1 00
Dudley Shoals,	Caldwell	Deal's Mills,		J. H. Gregor, D. Presnell, J. T. Snell,	1	2					15	60
Sardis,	"	Lenoir.	3	J. F. McCall and J. R. Sherrell,					1	2	34	1 50

Report of Committees.

A.

Treasurer's Report.

Received from the Committee of Finance,	$67 30	
Received from R. L. Steele,	44 25	
Public collection,	12 84	
From S. Ferguson,	1 75	
From Wm. Church,	2 00	
	——	$128 14
Credit for cash paid for Minutes,	$30 00	
Paid for books of various kinds,	52 80	
Freight on books,	2 50	
Paid S. P. Smith,	28 13	
Clerk's Compensation,	6 00	
	——	$119 43
Balance in hands of Treasurer,		$ 8 71

P. ELLER, *Treasurer.*

B.

Report on Finance.

Received from the Churches,	$36 10	
Received from the Treasurer,	8 71	
	——	$44 81
Distributed as follows:		
For printing,	$29 25	
Home Missions,	4 75	
Foreign Missions,	60	
Education,	1 50	
Clerk's compensation,	6 00	
	——	$42 10
This leaves in the Treasury,		$2 71

WM. POOL, *Chairman.*

C.
Report of Committee to district Association.

Churches North of the Brushy Mountain to compose the 1st District; Churches South of the top of said mountain to compose the 2nd District. J. G. BRYAN, *Chairman.*

D.
Report on Missions.

DEAR BRETHREN:—As the cause of Missions is the cause of God, and all christians should enlist in the cause of God for the promotion of the Kingdom of God and his Christ. Dear brethren, God has put the means in your hands, and he requireth you to aid, not to withhold your means, for the furtherance of the gospel of Christ.

Brethren, don't withhold your means, but give of that that the good Lord has bestowed upon you, or placed in your hands. Remember God loveth the cheerful giver. WM. POOL
J. G. BRYAN.

E.
Report on Periodicals.

DEAR BRETHREN:—We are glad that we can heartily recommend the Recorder as a good organ, and a faithful exponent of orthodox principles and doctrine. It is our own State paper and worthy of our patronage. But we are sorry that it is no better sustained by our denomination, and do hope our ministers will urge its claims upon the churches generally. I. OXFORD, *Chairman.*

F.
Report on Sabbath Schools.

It is a source of gratification to every christian heart, to know that the cause of Sabbath Schools is advancing, not only in our own body, but among christians everywhere. At the same time we have to lament the fact that there is not still more interest taken in this important enterprise than there is. We would therefore recommend to the churches comprising our Association, the following course:

Every Church should have a Sabbath School, with a regularly appointed Superintendent, whose duty it shall be to open and close the School and act as teacher in the school. The sessions of the school should be short, not more than two or three hours. Some inducement should be held out to the children, by way of promise, to cause punctual attendance and diligence in study. We regard the Sabbath School as next in importance to the church of Christ, and therefore

appeal to the ministry and the churches to unite their efforts in the advancement of this glorious enterprise.

We most cordially recommend to every Sabbath School, the Children's Friend, a paper published by Graves, Marks & Co., Nashville, Tennessee. Every family should have a copy.

Respectfully submitted. F. A. BELCHER,
S. R. SHERRELL.

G.

Report on Colportage.

The subject of Colportage is one eminently entitled to our highest consideration, as it possesses many and superior advantages to almost any other system in disseminating the glorious gospel of the blessed God. This enterprise proposes in its operations to carry the gospel to every family, which we believe is strictly the Apostolic plan in promoting the Redeemer's kingdom: For it is said of them, that they went from house to house, and preached the gospel. Moreover, while this enterprise carries the Word of God to the destitute, it also proposes to carry with it many good religious books, disseminating our principles as a denomination, thus making them known in places where they are not understood. Moreover, it is believed that the Word of God is the chief means of enlightening the great masses of the people; often they have no other. Hence this enterprise is peculiarly an enterprise of mercy; and he who engages in it, while he aims mainly at the spiritual improvement of the people, to a large proportion he brings almost the only supply of knowledge which they receive as thinking beings. Therefore we recommend to this Association to commence a system of colportage at once.

Respectfully submitted. R. L STEELE, *Chairman.*

H.

Report on Temperance.

Temperance has been truly defined to be the moderate use of all things necessary to our health and well-being, and a total abstinence from all things that are hurtful or pernicious in their effects. And whereas common sense, common observation, sad experience and God's Word all teach us that ardent spirits are an awful curse to the church; and, notwithstanding much has been done, yet much remains to be done to get rid of intemperance,—therefore ministers should be united, and preach, pray, and strive against it. Churches should deal with, reclaim or exclude all makers and venders; this done and the church will shine forth as the morning, fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners.

Respectfully submitted. L. LAND, *Chairman.*

I.

Report on Resolutions.

Whereas, in the providence of God our country has been permitted to become a scene of war and bloodshed, brought about by the unprovoked jealousies, angers and despotism of a sectional party, in the North, who are bent on our subjugation and destruction:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That we deplore the unhappy state of our country, and invoke the presence and assistance of the King of Nations in our behalf, and pray that this most unhappy and uncalled for strife may be brought to a speedy and honorable close.

Resolved, That while we are not the devotees of war, but at the same time it is a source of great gratification to know that the Baptists of our country have taken a noble stand in defence of our rights and liberties.

Resolved, That having learned that our beloved brethren, Elders J. G. Bryan, R. L. Steele and James Reed have succeeded in raising a volunteer company, composed mostly of Baptists, and commanded by the above mentioned brethren; we take great pleasure in recommending them to the favorable consideration of the Baptist denomination, wherever their lots may be cast during the service.

Resolved, That this Association set apart Thursday the 7th day of November next, as a day of public fasting and prayer to Almighty God, for the building up of Zion, the peace and prosperity of our country, and a speedy deliverance from our present condition.

Resolved, That this Association tender its thanks to the citizens and tent-holders of this vicinity for their hospitality in entertaining the delegates and messengers in attendance on this body. All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. McNEIL, *Chairman.*